

Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, the Tampa, Florida area is well-known for its diversity and uniqueness in people, places, and businesses, and they play an important role in the vitality of our city – serving as leaders in our community that is critical to Tampa's success; and

WHEREAS, the individuals and businesses of the Tampa Bay area contribute to our culture and enhance the quality of life in our neighborhoods by providing both residents and visitors with excellence, and by striving to make improvements to our community through the outstanding services they offer; and

WHEREAS, *Creative Loafing*, one of Tampa Bay's largest newspapers and an award-winning publication that is known for its commitment to the community, organized the first **Best of the Bay** event in 1990 to promote local people, places and businesses in the community, and engage citizens in celebrating the many wonderful facets of the Tampa Bay area; and

**WHEREAS**, during this popular annual event, Tampa Bay residents take an active part in the Best of the Bay by nominating and voting in various categories that include People, Places, Politics, Food & Drink, Goods & Services, and Arts & Entertainment by going to <u>www.cltampa.com/botb</u> to select their favorites; and

WHEREAS, 2017 marks the Annual Best of the Bay's 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and the event is coordinated, promoted and publicized by *Creative Loafing*, which highlights some of Tampa's best and provides the opportunity to put them in the spotlight; and

**WHEREAS**, on Wednesday, September 27, 2017, *Creative Loafing* will present over 600 awards to the Best of the Bay winners that were selected by the citizens at an Awards Party presented by the Tampa Bay Rowdies at The Mahaffey Theater in St. Petersburg, Florida.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida do hereby proclaim September 27 – October 2, 2017 as

## "BEST OF THE BAY WEEK"

in the city of Tampa, Florida and urge all residents to join in the festivities by taking the opportunity to vote in the Best of the Bay event whereby acknowledging the best in our area and recognizing those that have made an impact on our community over the past year.

Dated in Tampa, Florida this 19th day of September, 2017.

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Mayor